

ing near together, fruit simultaneously. It is probable that these are ecological varieties, that is, forms responding in a marked manner to environmental influences even during the development of a single generation. This would be difficult to prove except by cultures.

The differences are well shown by the accompanying plate, kindly drawn by Mr. F. Schuyler Mathews.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE 37 — *Hypericum Bissellii*: fig. 1, habit; fig. 2, expanded calyx; fig. 3, petal; fig. 4, cross-section of the ovary. *H. adpressum*: fig. 5, part of the stem; fig. 6, branched base; fig. 7, petal; fig. 8, expanded calyx; fig. 9, cross-section of the ovary; *H. adpressum*, var. *spongiosum*; fig. 10, part of the stem; fig. 11, spongy base of stem.

AN ANOMALOUS SKULLCAP.

M. L. FERNALD.

(Plate 38.)

JUDGE J. R. CHURCHILL has called the attention of the writer to a peculiar *Scutellaria* collected by him on the beach of the Aroostook River at Fort Fairfield, Maine. The plant was gathered as *S. galericulata* and a single specimen only was taken "for locality." A plant essentially identical with Judge Churchill's Fort Fairfield material had previously been collected by the writer in river-thickets at Masardis, seventy-five miles further up the Aroostook than Fort Fairfield. This material was passed without examination as *S. lateriflora*, but subsequent study of it in connection with the Fort Fairfield plant shows it to be of more than ordinary interest.

Its showy blue-violet flowers in the axils of the large leaves, though smaller than in that species, immediately suggest *S. galericulata*; but the thin primary leaves are ovate, long-acuminate, coarsely crenate-dentate, and on slender petioles, thus closely simulating those of *S. lateriflora*. This Aroostook River plant is, therefore, essentially intermediate in its characters between the two common species of New England. Combining thus the characters of two species the plant may be of hybrid origin. Yet the independent collection of specimens at remote points and in each case merely "for locality" suggests that the plant is common throughout the Aroostook Valley, and is to be regarded as analogous to certain other New England species,—*Circaea intermedia*, *Apocynum medium*, *Lysimachia producta*,

Lactuca Morssii, etc. — which combine to some extent the tendencies of other species of their respective genera.

The characters of this Aroostook Valley plant with which it is a pleasure to associate the name of the indefatigable botanical collector who first noted its peculiarities, are: —

SCUTELLARIA Churchilliana. Stems ascending from a slender rootstock, 3.5 to 6 dm. high, minutely pilose, freely branching even from the very base; the branches simple or forked, flexuous, loosely ascending or spreading, mostly 1.5 to 3 dm. long: leaves ovate-acuminate, very thin, glabrous above, minutely pilose on the nerves beneath; those of the primary stem 4 to 6 cm. long, coarsely crenate-dentate, on slender petioles nearly 1 cm. long; those of the branches smaller (1.5 to 3.5 cm. long) diminishing upwards, less coarsely toothed and on shorter petioles: flowers solitary in the upper axils: pedicels 1 or 2 mm. long: calyx during anthesis, 2.5 to 3 mm. long, puberulent: corolla 1 to 1.5 cm. long, pilose, blue-violet, narrow-funnelform, gradually enlarged upward, the lower lip somewhat exceeding the galea. — MAINE, thicket by Aroostook River, Masardis, Sept. 8, 1897 (*M. L. Fernald* — type in Herb. Gray); beach of Aroostook River, Fort Fairfield, Aug. 11, 1901 (*J. R. Churchill*).

In plate 38, Mr. F. Schuyler Mathews has brought out the habitual distinctions of the three species here discussed.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE 38.— Fig. 1, upper portion of *Scutellaria Churchilliana*; fig. 2, upper node of *S. lateriflora*; fig. 3, upper node of *S. galericulata*.

THE VERMONT BOTANICAL CLUB will join the VERMONT BIRD CLUB in a field-meeting on the shores and islands of Lake Champlain, Thursday and Friday, July 3 and 4.

The plan is to make cruises in small steamers to the less accessible points about the lake, leaving Burlington at 8 A. M., July 3, and returning on the evening of July 4. But since it is necessary to know in advance the number who will make the cruise, all persons who are interested in the meeting should apply *at once* to Prof. L. R. Jones, Secretary, Vermont Botanical Club, Burlington, Vt., for a circular giving detailed information.

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